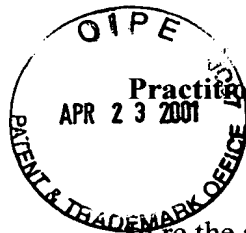


GP-2881



Practitioner's Docket No.: 782-133

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of: Yuichiro IMANISHI, Naohiro SHIMIZU and Shozo ISHII

Ser. No.: 09/669,815

Art Unit: 2881

Filed: September 26, 2000

Examiner: Not Assigned

For: METHOD OF TREATING SUBSTANCE AND APPARATUS FOR CARRYING OUT THE SAME

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail addressed to Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington D.C. 20231 on April 20, 2001.

Elizabeth A. VanAntwerp

#7
6-9-01
Payton

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office hereby directed to the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. Copies of each of the references listed on Form PTO-1449 are attached.

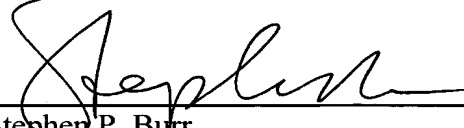
Also enclosed is a copy of a European Search Report bearing a mailing date of March 23, 2001, and the U.S. PTO is directed thereto for a concise statement of possible relevance of the references cited therein.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office may, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that these references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

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The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1446.

Respectfully submitted,



Stephen P. Burr
Reg. No. 32,970

April 20, 2001
Date

SPB/eav

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